

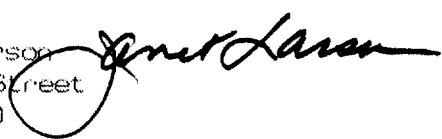
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21 May 1999

TO: Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061  
Rockville MD 20857-0003

RE: Docket No. 98N-1265

FROM: Dr. Janet L. Larson  
917 Washington Street  
Hoboken NJ 07030



I am writing with great concern about the MOU the FDA has drafted limiting the practice and interstate distribution of compounded drugs. My health depends on the continued use of natural micronized progesterone compounded with estriol (the "third," safer estrogen), which my gynecologist, Dr. Adele Cavalli, has prescribed and which is not available from my local pharmacist or the in-state mail-order prescription service my employer provides.

Dr. Cavalli has also just begun me on a course of estriol vaginal cream that we hope will prevent "false-alarm" pap tests and make it unnecessary for me to have repeated colonoscopies after such tests at \$600 each, cash up front. (The commercially available estradiol cream has estrogens in it I don't want in my body and does not work because it 'falls out' before it is absorbed.) Blue Cross and Blue Shield will not pay for all these tests. Since I can't afford them, it won't be possible to catch certain cancers in time should they invade my reproductive system.

These hormone drugs are compounded by the Women's International Pharmacy exactly as I want and need them. They are also far less expensive than commercial hormone drugs. And they are safer.

It's simple. You change the law and you ruin my life. Commercial drug companies will be overjoyed. My insurance company won't be. I could be dead.

98N-1265

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Dr. Janet L. Larson  
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Hoboken, N. J. 07030



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